

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 06989 071207Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06

OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /112 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3932

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, IR, UR

SUBJ: IRAN AND USSR BARTER DEAL

1. CITING OFFICIAL SOURCES, LOCAL PRESS REPORTED LAST WEEK THAT IRAN AND USSR HAVE AGREED IN PRINCIPAL ON A BARTER DEAL BY WHICH IRAN WOULD PROVIDE ONE MILLION TONS OF CRUDE OIL (20 MBPD) IN EXCHANGE FOR SOVIET GOODS AND SERVICES. ONE ARTICLE SUGGESTED THAT USSR WOULD TAKE DELIVERY OF CRUDE AT A BLACK SEA PORT AND WOULD IN PAYMENT CONSTRUCT A PORTION OF THE IGAT -II PIPELINE WHICH WILL BE BUILT FROM IRAN'S GAS FIELDS IN THE SOUTH TO ASTARA ON THE USSR BORDER.

2. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN ANY DETAILS OR EVEN CONFIRMATION ON THE REPORTED BARTER DEAL. WE ARE RELIABLY INFORMED THAT NEITHER NIOC NOR NIGC IS INVOLVED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. SUCH A DEAL, EVEN IF IT MATERIALIZES, WOULD NOT BE VERY IMPORTANT FOR IRAN EITHER IN TERMS OF ITS CRUDE EXPORTS OR IN TERMS OF OBTAINING FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF IGAT-II. PRIMARY MOTIVE WOULD SEEM TO BE POLITICAL.

3. AS REPORTED PREVIOUSLY, IT HAS LONG BEEN EXPECTED

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THAT USSR WILL 1) SUPPLY MOST OF THE COMPRESSORS FOR IGAT-II AND 2) BUILD THAT PORTION OF THE PIPELINE BETWEEN ASTARA AND A POINT NEAR QOM. ONE OF THE PRIME CONSIDERATIONS IN RELYING ON USSR AS A MAJOR SUPPLIER AND CONTRACTOR ON IGAT-II IS IRAN'S DESIRE TO USE SOME OF ITS RUBLE CREDITS WHICH HAVE ACCUMULATED AS RESULT OF GAS EXPORTED TO USSR THROUGH IGAT-I,

ALL OF WHICH IS PAID FOR IN RUBLES. GOI WILL NOT
DISCLOSE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF IT RUBLE CREDITS, BUT
BALANCE INCREASES AT APPROXIMATELY \$200 MILLION PER
YEAR.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, BARTER TRADE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: ENRG, IR, UR
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